



**Port Community Information Bulletin # 42-02**  
Marine Safety Office (813) 228-2189  
Tampa, Florida

Effective Date: December 11, 2002  
Expiration Date: TBD

## **TAMPA BAY HARBOR SAFETY COMMITTEE TRAFFIC CONTROL BOARD AND PROTOCOL**

The Captain of the Port Tampa, Florida would like to remind vessel masters, owners/operators and agents of the Tampa Bay Harbor Safety Committee (TBHSC) initiative establishing a Tampa Bay Traffic Control Board.

A TBHSC special public board meeting was held December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2003 announcing the board and its protocols, followed by a special session with operations managers, schedulers and similar positions. The board will formally begin its work on December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2003. The following is a brief recap of the protocols established and procedures for owners/operators, masters and agents to follow:

- Vessel operators or agents shall provide the Board (via Tampa VTIS) with the best estimate of their arrival/sailing times at certain intervals. These intervals shall be set at 24 hours and 4 hours in advance of arrival; 4 hours and 2 hours prior to departure/shift. Notice shall also include ETAs to check points and anticipated speed of transit. See attached form.
- The Board will assess vessel movement requests potentially in conflict, mindful of Fantasy Class (SENSATION, INSPIRATION) arrival and departures schedules and pre-established protocol for its (their) movements.
- The Board shall be mindful of the pre-existing Safety Zones established for NH3 and LPG vessel traffic.
- Vessel operators or agents shall not hedge their arrival/sailing times to gain preferential sailing assignments. Honest assessments shall be provided to the Board. Operators or agents caught hedging shall lose any sailing priority brought about by their manipulation of the system.

Also attached is the form owner/operators or agents may use to document impacts incurred due to traffic related delays. This information will be used as part of the decision making process used by the board to de-conflict traffic. Questions or concerns regarding this bulletin should be directed to LCDR Timme at (813) 228-2189 ext. 103.

J. M. FARLEY  
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard  
Captain of the Port